

Commentary on candidate evidence

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each question of this course assessment component.

Candidate 1

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each question of this question paper assessment.

Total mark allocation: **27/30**

Section 1: Multiple choice

The candidate was awarded **10 marks** for this section. Marks were awarded as follows:

Question 1 – **1 mark**

Question 2 – **1 mark**

Question 3 – **1 mark**

Question 4 – **1 mark**

Question 5 – **1 mark**

Question 6 – **1 mark**

Question 7 – **1 mark**

Question 8 – **1 mark**

Question 9 – **1 mark**

Question 10 – **1 mark**

Section 2 – Analysis

Question 11(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for this question.

The candidate identified aperture as the appropriate camera control used by the photographer. **(1 mark)**

They correctly explained the use of a wide aperture, recognising that it keeps the table in focus while softening the background. Their response clearly establishes the cause-and-effect relationship between the aperture setting and the resulting depth of field. **(1 mark)**

Question 11(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for this question.

The candidate has correctly explained that the use of a standard lens has allowed the table and chair to appear without distortion. Whilst valid, the additional comment about creating a natural perspective was not required to gain the mark. **(1 mark)**

The candidate incorrectly described the effect of an ND filter, confusing it with the effects of a polarising filter. The answer was technically inaccurate, therefore, no mark was awarded. **(0 marks)**

Question 11(c)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for this question.

The candidate correctly identified colour as a visual element. The candidate explained how the bright orange seats, yellow food and window signage are linked to an old-fashioned aesthetic appropriate to the setting. **(1 mark)**

Their reference to lighting did not gain a mark, as it is not a visual element. **(0 marks)**

The candidate identified shape as a visual element, and explained the contrast between circular plates and rectangular seats and how this creates visual interest. **(1 mark)**

Question 11(d)

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for this question.

The candidate discussed the use of angled lighting and explained how it creates shadows that symbolise conversations that might have taken place at the table. **(1 mark)**

The candidate referred to the writing on the window as sending a message, linking 'We only serve the best' to a positive customer experience. **(1 mark)**

The candidate explained that the image was taken at sunset, suggesting that this symbolises time passing and the enjoyment of those present at the table. While the term 'low key' was used inaccurately, the interpretation of atmosphere and symbolism was sufficient for a mark. **(1 mark)**

Question 12

The candidate was awarded **9 marks** for this question.

The candidate correctly identified the photographer's use of a narrow aperture and explained that this created a wide depth of field, allowing the whole scene, specifying the faces and clothing, to appear clearly in focus. **(1 mark)**

The candidate recognised the use of a fast shutter speed to freeze the movement of people raising their arms, explaining that this captured a precise moment in time without motion blur. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified the use of a standard lens and explained that this prevented warping at the edges of the frame. However, their justification was generic and not directly related to the image. **(0 marks)**

The candidate identified a low ISO setting, correctly linking this to achieving balanced exposure on a bright day. The candidate referred to the image, such as the people wearing sunglasses, and explained that the details were maintained without overexposure. **(1 mark)**

The candidate noted the candid style of the photograph, commenting that the people are unaware of the camera and facing away, which creates an authentic and genuine atmosphere. **(1 mark)**

The candidate recognised the eye-level viewpoint, explaining that it makes the image feel natural and positions the viewer within the crowd, helping them blend into the scene. **(1 mark)**

The candidate observed that one man is looking directly at the camera, which makes him stand out from the rest of the group and draws the viewer's attention. They further suggested that this makes us question why he is behaving differently. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified the use of implied leading lines, created by the direction of people's gaze and the angles of their phones, which draw the viewer's attention beyond the frame and make us curious about what is happening outside the shot. **(1 mark)**

The candidate recognised the use of postproduction editing to convert the image to black and white, explaining that this gives the photograph an old-fashioned quality and makes the viewer question when it was taken, given the modern inclusion of mobile phones. **(1 mark)**

The candidate discussed the choice of subject matter, explaining that photographing people that are filming an event introduces irony, showing how modern audiences experience moments through their screens rather than directly. This point was well developed through reference to the man looking into the camera. **(1 mark)**

Candidate 2

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each question of this question paper assessment.

Total mark allocation: **25/30**

Section 1: Multiple choice

The candidate was awarded **10 marks** for this section. Marks were awarded as follows:

Question 1 – **1 mark**

Question 2 – **1 mark**

Question 3 – **1 mark**

Question 4 – **1 mark**

Question 5 – **1 mark**

Question 6 – **1 mark**

Question 7 – **1 mark**

Question 8 – **1 mark**

Question 9 – **1 mark**

Question 10 – **1 mark**

Section 2 – Analysis

Question 11(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for this question.

The candidate correctly identified aperture as the camera control used by the photographer. **(1 mark)**

They explained that a wide aperture was used, allowing the plates, table and bench to remain in focus while the pavement in the background appears blurred. **(1 mark)**

Question 11(b)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for this question.

The candidate noted that the use of a standard lens creates an image that is similar to the human eye. They then explained that the comforting subject matter of a restaurant makes the image appear natural; however, this does not effectively link to the use of a standard lens. **(0 marks)**

The candidate correctly explained that the use of an ND filter lowers the exposure and allows the photographer to use a wide aperture to focus on the plates and table. **(1 mark)**

Question 11(c)

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for this question.

The candidate identified shape as a visual element, explaining that the geometric arrangement of the circular plates creates a triangular formation, which helps to make the food the focal point. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified tone as a visual element, noting the contrast between the light tones of the table and the darker shadows beneath it. They explained that this contrast creates a sense of drama within the image. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified line as a visual element, referring to the line along the bottom of the table and explaining that it draws the viewer's eye to the foreground of the image. **(1 mark)**

Question 11(d)

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for this question.

The candidate noted that the table contains empty dishes and explained that this communicates to the viewer that the diners have enjoyed their meal. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified that the restaurant appears small and possibly seaside-based, explaining that the image sends a welcoming message that reminds the viewer of home. **(1 mark)**

The candidate referred to the sun shining on the table and explained that this symbolises happiness, suggesting that sharing a meal brings joy. **(1 mark)**

The candidate additionally commented on the old-fashioned colour and text, linking this to nostalgia and childhood; however, the candidate has already been awarded the maximum number of marks available for this question. **(0 marks)**

Question 12

The candidate was awarded **6 marks** for this question.

The candidate identified the use of a black and white image for an old-fashioned effect in combination with the subject matter of modern technology, and linked this to a message regarding the problem of advanced technology. However, their explanation was not fully developed and did not clearly justify why this combination sends this message. **(0 marks)**

The candidate identified a repeating pattern created by the people holding phones and explained that this contributes to a busy and chaotic composition, which can feel overwhelming for the viewer. **(1 mark)**

The candidate recognised the use of a narrow aperture, explaining that this allows the viewer to see deep into the crowd and emphasises the mass of people raising their phones. They linked this to the idea of being reminded to live in the moment. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified the dark tones distributed throughout the image and explained that these create balance within the composition. This was a succinct, but valid point. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified a black frame created by the edges of the image and explained that this helps focus attention on the crowd, creating a focal point. **(1 mark)**

The candidate noted that the frame is filled with the crowd and buildings, highlighting the lack of negative space and explaining that this makes the composition appear busy and overwhelming. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified the use of a fast shutter speed, correctly stating that it captures the moving crowd. However, the explanation that this creates an aesthetically pleasing and visually impactful photograph is not fully developed. **(0 marks)**

The candidate referred to a pattern in the pillars, but this response is not fully developed. **(0 marks)**

The candidate identified the woman as a point of interest, noting that she appears lighter in tone. However, the effect of this is not fully explained. **(0 marks)**

The candidate recognised the use of leading lines created by the direction of the crowd's gaze, explaining that this makes the viewer wonder what is happening out of frame. **(1 mark)**

The candidate included another example of a leading line created by the rows of the crowd, but the effect of this was not fully explained. **(0 marks)**

The candidate identified black-and-white tones in the pillars and curtain creating contrast, but the effect of this contrast is not fully explained. **(0 marks)**

The candidate referred to patterns in the clothing, suggesting this adds to the busy mood and atmosphere, but the point was not fully developed. **(0 marks)**

Candidate 3

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each question of this question paper assessment.

Total mark allocation: **27/30**

Section 1: Multiple choice

The candidate was awarded **10 marks** for this section. Marks were awarded as follows:

Question 1 – **1 mark**

Question 2 – **1 mark**

Question 3 – **1 mark**

Question 4 – **1 mark**

Question 5 – **1 mark**

Question 6 – **1 mark**

Question 7 – **1 mark**

Question 8 – **1 mark**

Question 9 – **1 mark**

Question 10 – **1 mark**

Section 2 – Analysis

Question 11(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for this question.

The candidate identified a low f-stop as the camera control used by the photographer. **(1 mark)**

The candidate explained that this creates a blurred background, placing focus on the table in the foreground . **(1 mark)**

Question 11(b)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for this question.

The candidate explained that using a standard lens mimics the human field of vision and creates the feeling that the viewer is about to take a seat at the table. **(1 mark)**

The candidate explained that using an ND filter limits the amount of light entering the lens and ensures correct exposure despite the sunlight coming through the window. **(1 mark)**

Question 11(c)

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for this question.

The candidate identified colour as a visual element, explaining that the bright yellow contrasts with the white table and draws the viewer's eye. **(1 mark)**

Although the candidate has referred to 'leading line', which is a compositional technique, a mark has been awarded for the use of line, as the knowledge demonstrated is relevant to the use of a visual element **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified pattern as a visual element, recognising the repetition of plates and glasses and explaining that this naturally leads the viewer's eye across the table. **(1 mark)**

Question 11(d)

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for this question.

The candidate noted the half-eaten food to show someone had eaten there recently and that the diner was still open as a business. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified the retro style of the shaker, contrasting it with modern versions and explained that this implies the diner is nostalgic and older. **(1 mark)**

The candidate referred to the orange leather seating, explaining that this is symbolic of retro diners and communicates that the setting is dated. **(1 mark)**

Question 12

The candidate was awarded **7 marks** for this question.

The candidate identified the use of a fast shutter speed, explaining that it freezes the moment and allows the viewer to see the facial expressions clearly. **(1 mark)**

The candidate recognised the use of a large f-number, correctly explaining that this keeps everything in focus and allows the viewer to see the large number of people gathered. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified a low ISO, but the effect is not clearly explained. **(0 marks)**

The candidate identified a front on perspective, explaining that this immerses the viewer and makes them feel part of the crowd. **(1 mark)**

The candidate referred to the use of black and white photography, suggesting it makes the image less busy, but the justification was not fully developed. **(0 marks)**

The candidate noted that the man not looking at the sky stands out from the crowd, making him the focal point. Their additional comment about the gingham shirt reinforced their point. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified leading lines, explaining that the line of people draws the viewer's eye into the image and creates depth. **(1 mark)**

The candidate commented on the huge number of people, explaining that this creates a claustrophobic feeling and an uneasy mood. Their reference to people looking at the sky reinforced the point. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified the rule of thirds and its role in drawing attention to the man looking at the camera, but the justification was not fully developed. **(0 marks)**

the candidate recognised the candid nature of the image, explaining that the unposed crowd creates a natural and immersive scene for the viewer. **(1 mark)**

Candidate 4

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each question of this question paper assessment.

Total mark allocation: **19/30**

Section 1: Multiple choice

The candidate was awarded **10 marks** for this section. Marks were awarded as follows:

Question 1 – **1 mark**

Question 2 – **1 mark**

Question 3 – **1 mark**

Question 4 – **1 mark**

Question 5 – **1 mark**

Question 6 – **1 mark**

Question 7 – **1 mark**

Question 8 – **1 mark**

Question 9 – **1 mark**

Question 10 – **1 mark**

Section 2 – Analysis

Question 11(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for this question.

The candidate identified aperture as a camera control used by the photographer. **(1 mark)**

The candidate explained that a large aperture creates a shallow depth of field, making the salt and pepper shakers appear blurred and out of focus. **(1 mark)**

Question 11(b)

The candidate was awarded **0 mark** for this question.

The candidate's explanation of the visual effect of using a standard lens is not linked to the image. **(0 marks)**

The candidate did not provide a correct explanation of the visual effect of using an ND filter, and did not reference the photograph. **(0 marks)**

Question 11(c)

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for this question.

The candidate identified line as a visual element, explaining that specific lines lead the viewer's eye around the image. **(1 mark)**

They identified colour, noting the contrast between the cool, dark tones of the window and the warm orange tones of the chairs and chips on the table. **(1 mark)**

They identified texture, describing smooth, shiny and soft textures, but the explanation of their effect did not justify how these textures contribute to the creative effect of the image. **(0 marks)**

Question 11(d)

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for this question.

The candidate noted the dirty plates and unwashed glasses, explaining that this suggests an expectation that someone else will clean up after the meal. **(1 mark)**

Question 12

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** for this question.

The candidate identified a small aperture, explaining that this keeps the entire image in focus, but the point was generic and did not reference the image. **(0 mark)**

The candidate identified a fast shutter speed and explained that this keeps the image clear and free from motion blur, but the justification was generic and did not reference the image. **(0 marks)**

The candidate identified leading lines, explaining that these guide the viewer's eye down through the image and draw attention to the people. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified tonal contrast, noting that the man's darker clothing emphasises him as the focal point and draws the viewer's attention. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified the subjects' poses, explaining that the man's gaze towards the camera contrasts with the others who are looking away, reinforcing him as the focal point. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified the use of a standard lens, explaining that this creates a natural viewpoint, but the explanation was generic and not specific to the image. **(0 marks)**

The candidate identified a triangular composition, describing the placement of objects and explaining that this guides the viewer around the focal point. **(1 mark)**

The candidate identified shape and form, noting that the shapes of people and buildings contrast, but the effect is not fully explained. **(0 marks)**

The candidate identified texture, listing contrasting textures. However, they did not explain the effect or relevance of this contrast. **(0 marks)**

The candidate has referenced the image being made black and white in post-production to create a dramatic and serious effect. However, the comment is general and is not specific to the image. **(0 marks)**